

ANNOUNCEMENT

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

**Training Workshop on
New Approaches and Methods of Population Forecasting**

Organized by
**Asian MetaCentre
for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis**

Date
5 – 16 March 2001

Venue
National University of Singapore, Singapore

People may debate whose population projection is the best by comparing the projected number with the "reality". Others may be interested to know which scenario is the closest to the "reality". A group of demographers may not worry whether their projection will be "realized.". For this group, the most important concern of population projection is to provide people with several scenarios of the future population trend. On the other hand, some policy makers may want to have only one scenario because multiple scenarios complicate their policy making.

This training aims to introduce probabilistic population projection. This concept explicitly recognizes that we cannot just have one number, but we will have a range of numbers, within a confidence interval. Two projections may seem to produce two different results but the difference may not be statistically significant. The training will also discuss how to prepare the assumptions of the projection and how to interpret implications of the population projections.

The discussion will be limited to residents in Southeast Asia, namely: Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Philippines. The special emphasis is put on the regional/ provincial/ state populations.

Participants will be active in the overall discussions. They will work on the data from their own countries/regions. Participants are expected to work in several regions/provinces/states of their countries.

Therefore, participants are required to bring the basic data for population projection: the information on population number and age-sex composition; age specific fertility rate, age specific death rates, and age specific migration rate. Past trends in population parameters will be very useful to prepare assumption for the projections. Previous and existing population projections will also be beneficial. Participants are required to have knowledge of Demographic Techniques and a working knowledge of EXCEL.

The training will be conducted from 5-16 March 2001 at the National University of Singapore. This training is an activity of the Asian Meta Centre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis, which is headquartered at the Centre for Advanced Studies, NUS.

Dr. Serguei Scherbov from Groningen University, the Netherlands, will lead the discussion on the technique of probabilistic population projection.

Dr. Aris Ananta, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, will facilitate the discussion on the preparation of the assumption and the interpretation of the result of the population projection.

Each participant will prepare the projection and present the results in the last two days of the training. The presentation in the last two days of the training will be attended by the supervisors (directors or heads of division) of the participants in their own institutes. The supervisors will provide comments on the results of the training.

This is a small training workshop with a maximum of 15 participants and it is therefore expected there will intensive interaction among the participants.

If you need more information, please contact Dr. Aris Ananta.